

Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 PM-05 ISO-00 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00
INR-10 NSAE-00 L-03 HA-05 MCE-00 AID-05 EB-08
TRSE-00 OMB-01 ACDA-12 H-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 DODE-00
/105 W

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P 030603Z AUG 78

FM AMEMBASSY NDJAMENA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7778

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 NDJAMENA 2972

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y T E X T

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS MPOL

SUBJ: SECRTIY ASSISTANCE REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

REF: (A) STATE 188325 (B) NDJAMENA 2809

A. 1. AMERICAN INTERESTS IN CHARUARE FEW. THEY INCLUDE PROTECTION AND SUPPORT OF AMERICAN COMPANIES ENGAGED IN PETROLEUM EXPLORATION; HELPING A FRIENDLY CONSERVATIVE GOVERNMENT MAINTAIN ITS TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY IN A PART OF AFRICA WHOSE STABILITY IS THREATENED BY AN AGGRESSIVE SOCIALIST ARAB STATE; ANA GENERAL HUMANITARIAN CONCERN TO PROMOTE ECONOMIC GROWTH AND INCREASE FOOD PRODUCTION IN ONE OF THE WORLD'S POOREST COUNTRIES WHICH FACES PERIODIC DROUGHT. SPECIFIC SECURITY ASSISTANCE OBJECTIVES ARE TO HELP THE GOC IMPROVE ITS MILITARY DEFENSE CAPABILITY BY MAINTAINING A VIABLE PRESENCE IN THE COUNTRY WHICH SUPPLEMSDTS BUT DOES NOT SUPPLANT FRENCH MILITARY AID.

2. THE GOVERNMENT OF CHAD IS FACED BY A REBELLION EHICH, WITH ACTIVE SUPPORT FROM LIBYA, HAS TAKEN
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CONTROL OF THE NORTHERN HALF OF THE COUNTRY.
LIBYA ITSELF, IN FACT, CLAIMS AND OCCUPIES THE 100,000 KMZ AOZOU STRIP WHICH THE JAMAHIRA HAS ANNEXED. IN ADDITION TO THE TOUBOU-LED ISLAMIC INSJGENCY OF FROLINAT, ETHNIC GROUPS IN VARIOUS PARTS OF THE COUNTRY HAVE CAUSED CIVIL DISTURBANCES IN RECENT MONTHS TO PRESS THEIR VARIOUS CLAIMS ON CENTRAL

GOVERNMENT RESOURCES.

CHAD HAS COLLED ON ALL FRIENDLY GOVERNMENTS TO ASSIST MILITARILY BUT, DESPITE SOME USSR WEAPONS DELIVERY IN THE PAST, ONLY FRANCE IS ACTIVELY INVOLVED NOW. THE GOC REALIZES IT DEPENDS FOR ITS SURVIVAL ON A CONTINUED FRENCH PRESENCE. ITS PRINCIPAL STRATEGY IS TO CONTAIN THE REVELLION MILITARILY WHILE TRYING TO WEAN AWAY CERTAIN DISSIDENT LEADERS WHO WILL JOIN A COJQITION GOVERNMENT OF NATIONAL RECONCILIATION TO TAKE OVER THE REINS FROM THE SUPREME MILITARY COUNCIL (CSM).

3. THE MISSION AGREES WITH GOC IDENTIFICATION OF THE FROLINAT/LIBYAN THREAT AS THE ONLY REAL ONE.

4. THE TYPE MILITARY ESTABLISHMENT CHAD BELIEVES MOST SUITED TO MEET THE THREAT IS TIED TO AND SUPPORTED ZY FRANCE WHICH HAS VERY RECENTLY PROPOSED THE CREATION OF TEN (10) NEW UNITS FOR THE ARMY, FIVE (5) FOR THE GENDARMERIE AND ONE (1) FOR THE AIR FORCE. THESE FORCES WOULD BE FOR THE MOST PART VEHICULAR MOUNTED ON FRENCH AML ARMORED CARS AND ON TRUCKS.

5. THE FORCE PROPOSED BY FRANCE AS INDICATED IN PARAGRAPH 4 ABOVE IS CONSIDERED TO BE SUPPORTIVE OF
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US INTERESTS AND OBJECTIVES. IT WILL, IF CREATED, INCREASE THE POSSIBILITY OF RESTORING AND DEFENDING NATIONAL TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY AND WILL PROVIDE AN ADEQUATE AND RESPONSIVE MOBILIZATION BASE. IF AN FMS PROGRAM COULD BE IMPLEMENTED ALONG THE LINES PROPOSED BY MSAP 80 - 84, THEN THE US PROGRAM WOULD BE COMPATIBLE WITH THE GRENCN PROPOSAL.

6. THIRTY-NINE PERCENT OF CHAD'S 1978 ORDINARY BUDGET, OR 6.66 BILLION CFA OUT OF 17.08 BILLION CFA, IS FOR DEFENSE EXPENDITURES. NO BREAKDOWN OF DETAILS IS AVAILABLE YET, BUT PREVIOUS YEAR TOTALS HAVE BEEN ONLY SLIGHTLY SMALLER AMOUNTS AND ROUGHLY HALF IS SELF-FINANCED. THIS WULD AMOUNT FOUR PERCENT OF GNP. CHAD IS PART OF THE FRANC ZONE AND THUS HAS NO FOREIGN EXCHANGE PROBLEM.

7. SEE FY 80 - 84 MSAGP.

8. PROJECTIONS SUBMITTED FOR THE FY 80 - 84 MSAP WERE DEVELOPED IN RESPONSE TO THE PERCEIVED NEED ON THE PART OF THE CHADIAN ARMY AND THE MILITARY

FRENCH ADVISORS FOR A UNIT TO BE USED AS A MOBILE
MOTORIZED STRIKE FORCE FOR REBEL CONFINEMENT.

9. THE 1977 BUDGET TOTALS APPROXIMATELY
DOLLARS 70 MILLION (AT US DOLLAR ONE EQUALS 225 CFA
FRANCS) AND THE DEBT SERVICE PORTION IS UNDER
DOLLARS 600,000. ADDITION OF MORE THAN DOLLARS
TWO MILLION/YEAR IN REPAYMENTS, IF THE DOLLARS FIVE
MILLION ANNUAL FMS PROGRAM WERE IMPLEMENTED
WOULD REQUIRE DIVERSION OF A LARGE PERCENTAGE OF
THE ORDINARY BUDGET. CHAD WOULD NOT BE VIABLE
WITHOUT MASSIVE ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE FROM FRANCE
AND OTHER COUNTRIES; ITS ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
GOALS THUS ARE INFLUENCED TO A GREAT EXTENT BY
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FOREIGN AID LOANS AND GRANTS.

10. N/A

11. HUMAN RIGHTS DEVELOPMENTS UNDER THE PRESENT
GOVERNMENT ARE VERY ENCOURAGING. ALTHOUGH THE
REBELLION IN THE NORTH HAS CONTINUED TO PROMPT
CONCERN FOR THE SECURITY OF MAJOR URBAN AREAS
FROM POSSIBLE TERRORIST ACTIVITIES, THE GOVERNMENT
HAS GENERALLY REFRAINED FROM ABROGATING TRADITIONAL
PRINCIPLES OF HUMAN RIGHTS IN ITS EFFORTS TO COUNTER
SUCH A THREAT. SEVERAL MEMBERS OF THE FORMER
REGIME WHO WERE INCARCERATED FOLLOWING
THE 1975 COUP D'ETAT HAVE BEEN BROUGHT TO TRIAL IN
OPEN COURT AND AFFORDED BASIC LEGAL GUARANTEES;
ONE PROMINENT FORMER MINISTER HAS RECENTLY BEEN
ACQUITTED AND ONLY ONE OTHER FORMER MINISTER IS
STILL BEING HELD PENDING TRIAL. IN EARLY 1978, ALMOST
150 POLITICAL PRISONERS (REBELS) WERE RELEASED IN
ACCORDANCE WITH AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT
AND ONE OF THE ARMED OPPOSITION MOVEMENTS. THE
GOC HAS ANNOUNCED THE ARREST OF ABOUT TWENTY (20)
CLANDESTINE FROLINAT MEMBERS IN NDJAMENA IN
RECENT WEEKS, AND IT IS EXPECTED ALL WILL BE TRIED
WITH DUE LEGAL PROCESS.

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P 030603Z AUG 78
FM AMEMBASSY NDJAMENA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7779

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 2 NDJAMENA 2972

QWM DEFENSE ATTACHE OFFICE (DAO) STATISTICS
SHOW MILITARY ASSISTANCE FOR THE 1954 - 77 PERIOD AS
(DOLLARS MILLION):

USSR 6.5

FRANCE 11.4

GERMANY 1.4

OTHER 1.0

13. (A) THROUGH (E): THREE SEPARATE LEVELS ARE
NOT APPROPRIATE FOR CHAD. THE PRESENT OR CURRENT
LEVEL IS THE MINIMUM LEVEL. CHAD'S EMBRYONIC
DOLLARS 175,000 IMET PROGRAM IS SO MODEST THAT NO
REDUCED LEVEL CAN BE CONSIDERD.

13. (F) N/A

13. (H) INDIGENOUS SOURCES ARE ALMOST NONEXISTENT
IN CHAD SO IT HAS TRADITIONALLY TURNED TO OTHER
COUNTRIES, E.G., FRANCE, SOVIET UNION, CONGO. THIS
MODEST IMET PROGRAM IS DESIGNED TO MAINTAIN MILITARY
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CONTACTS WITH THE UNITED STATES, AND TO CONTINUING
TO IMPROVE CHADIAN MILITARY CAPABILITY BY PROVIDING
THEIR OFFICERS AN OPPORTUNITY TO STUDY WITH THE
U.S. OFFICERS.

13. (I) ONE PROGRAM ELEMENT ONLY -- IMET FY 80,
81, 82. BRADFORD

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